



The Parish Churches of St Mary the Virgin, Gillingham,
St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour and St Nicholas, Silton



Open to God, Open to all

www.achurchnearyou.com/church/6802/

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Sunday 25 January The Conversion of Paul

CW Lectionary Acts 9. 1 – 22; Matt 19. 27 - end

10:00am Holy Communion St Mary's Church, Gillingham *Hymns: 719, 676, 787, 587 (choir), 477*

Prayers for healing are usually available after the 10am service in the side chapel at St Mary's

10:30am Matins St Nicholas Church, Silton

10:30am Holy Communion St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour *Hymns: 131, 95, 184, 170*

Collect

Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

For your thoughts and prayers

Norma Morris, Adam Cooke, Steve & Mary Rae, Roberta Wyatt, Rita Burns, Allen & Pauline Bryant, Carol Hebden, Mary Andrews, Diane Whitford, Ann Lockyer, Jean Harding, Anne Clarke, Shirley Lynch and Sandra Harwood.

We commend to God's care all those who have died, especially Wendy Malet and David Banham, and we pray for those who mourn the loss of loved ones.

READING Acts 9. 1 – 22

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, 'Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?' He asked, 'Who are you, Lord?' The reply came, 'I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.' The men who were travelling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, 'Ananias.' He answered, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him, 'Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.' But Ananias answered, 'Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.' So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.' And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, 'He is the Son of God.' All who heard him were amazed and said, 'Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?' Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

GOSPEL Matthew 19. 27 – end

Peter said to Jesus: 'Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.'

Sunday 25 January

3:30pm Messy Church in the Vicarage School Room

6:00pm Week of Prayer for Christian Unity main service at St Benedict's Church, Gillingham

Monday 26 January

5:00pm Silton PCC Meeting at Silton Village Hall

Tuesday 27 January

10:00am – 12noon Gillingham Mindful Café at Gillingham Social Club. This week's activity will be Instant Panto, interactive fun!

Wednesday 28 January

10.30am Holy Communion at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

10:30am – 12noon The Gillingham Men's Group at Rawson Court

11:00am Rehearsal for the Licensing Service of The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

2:00pm – 4:30pm Eden Café and TerraCycle recycling in the Vicarage School Room

Thursday 29 January *Parish Office Closed from today, re-opening Tuesday 10 February*

9:00am Cleaning Party at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

Anyone who wishes to come and help spruce up St Mary's for Revd Becca's Licensing Service is more than welcome!

10:00am – 12noon Eden Café and TerraCycle recycling in the Vicarage School Room

2:30pm – 4:00pm Dementia Friendly Gillingham 'Music For You' at St Martin's House, Queen Street

7:00pm Licensing Service of The Reverend Rebecca McDonnell at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

*Everyone in the benefice is invited to the Institution by the Bishop of Sherborne and the Induction and Installation by the Archdeacon of Dorset of **our new Rector**, The Revd Rebecca McDonnell. Following the service, refreshments will be served. We hope to see you there!*

Friday 30 January

9.30am – 10am Informal Prayer Group at St Mary's Church, Gillingham

Saturday 31 January

10:00am – 12noon Meditation in the Vicarage School Room

Sunday 1 February The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

CW Lectionary Heb. 2. 14 - end; Luke 2. 22 - 40

8:00am Holy Communion St Mary's Church, Gillingham

10:00am Holy Communion St Mary's Church, Gillingham

10:30am BCP Holy Communion St Nicholas Church, Silton

10:30am Morning Worship St Simon & St Jude, Milton on Stour

Wednesday 4 February - Today at Eden, 2:00pm – 4:30pm, there will be **an opportunity to purchase a variety of handmade craft items by J K Hall** including cards, notelets and bags. Commissions also taken. A donation from each item sold will go towards St Mary's Church Funds.

Gillingham Community Cinema Upcoming Films – 7:00pm in the Vicarage School Room

Thursday 12 February – The Ballad of Wallis Island

Thursday 19 March – The Choral

Tickets £6. Reserve from 07817 379006. Payment on the evening.



Our Iranian friends - Thank you to everyone who has offered help in various ways. The family are very grateful. But needs still remain. Please speak to Margaret for more information.